

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) The method as described in Claim [[1]] 28 wherein the set of bitmap characteristics includes a bitmap compression format.
3. (Currently amended) The method as described in Claim [[1]] 28 wherein the step of generating the version of the image includes processing the image according to the specified bitmap compression format.
4. (Original) The method as described in Claim 2 wherein the bitmap compression format is lossy.
5. (Original) The method as described in Claim 2 wherein the bitmap compression format is non-lossy.
6. (Currently amended) The method as described in Claim [[1]] 28 wherein the set of bitmap characteristics is specified at the client by setting a graphical control in a graphical user interface.
7. (Previously presented) The method as described in Claim 6 wherein the graphical control is a slider having first and second positions and a plurality of intermediate positions.

8-9. (Allowed)

10. (Currently amended) The method as described in claim 28 wherein A method for serving an image from a server to a client, comprising the steps of:

storing the first image is stored at the server;

the client request is specified at the client[[,]] specifying a set of one or more bitmap characteristics for an image transfer, at least one of the bitmap characteristics including a number of bits per pixel; and

the second version of the first image for the image transfer is generated at the server,[[,]] responsive to a client request that includes data identifying a specified bitmap characteristic, generating a version of the image that conforms to the specified bitmap characteristic; and

serving the version of the image back to the client.

11. (Original) The method as described in Claim 10 wherein the client is a computer having a browser for issuing the client request.

12. (Original) The method as described in Claim 10 wherein the bitmap characteristics include a bitmap compression format.

13. (Original) The method as described in Claim 10 wherein the bitmap characteristics include a number of dots per inch on a printer associated with the client.

14. (Original) The method as described in Claim 10 wherein the image is stored at the server in a high resolution format.

15-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The method as described in Claim [[1]] 28, wherein the image transfer is for a web page.

28. (Currently amended) A method in a server for serving a first image from the server to a client, comprising the steps of:

receiving a client request from the client, wherein the client request specifies a set of one or more bitmap characteristics for an image transfer, at least one of the bitmap characteristic including a number of bits per pixel;

responsive to receiving the client request, generating a version of the first image for the image transfer that conforms to the set of specified bitmap characteristics;

~~The method of claim 1,~~ wherein the first image is stored in a first file, the generating step comprises:

processing data for the first image in the first file to create the a second version of the first image for the image transfer that conforms to the set of specified bitmap characteristics; [[and]]

storing data for the second version of the first image in a second file for transfer to the client, wherein the processing and storing steps are initiated after the client request has been received[(.)]; and

serving the second version of the first image back to the client.

29. (Original) Method of claim 28, wherein the processing step transforms the data for the image according to a requested color depth value.